

### **New Panel for Simplification of Direct Tax Laws**

1685. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have by now taken a decision to appoint a new panel for suggesting ways of simplifying direct tax laws;

(b) if so, its composition and terms of reference;

(c) whether he is aware that as at present more than 70 per cent of the total real income of the business and industry all over the country never figures in the account books for income-tax assessment and the Income-tax Department is incapable of checking the proliferation of black money which runs a parallel and powerful economy; and

(d) what measures do Government propose to take pending simplification of the existing law to unearth black money and review the existing summary assessment scheme (SAS)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration of the Government.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Pending simplification of the existing laws, the Government propose to curb the growth of black money through multipronged action of more effective implementation of tax laws and launching drive against hoarding and profiteering. In so far as existing Summary Assessment Scheme is concerned, further tightening of the Scheme with a view to making proper scrutiny in cases marked for sample checking is under consideration.

### **Upward trend in Cost of Living Index**

1686. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the upward trend in the cost of Living continues unabated;

(b) what is Consumer Price Index at the end of October, 1980 and how much it has jumped over the Index in August; and

(c) the effective steps which he has taken or propose to take to check the upward jump of the Consumer Price Index?

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) and (b). The Consumer Price Index of Industrial Workers' (1960-100) has, in general, been showing a rising trend, though, the rate of increase fluctuates from month to month and year to year. Data relating to Consumer Price Index for October, 1980 are not yet available. The Consumer Price Index has moved up from 397 in August, 1980 to 402 in September, 1980 (latest available) showing an increase of 1.3 per cent.

(c) Several anti-inflationary steps have been taken by the Government. These include: Strengthening of Public distribution system, increasing and augmenting internal supplies through imports and regulated exports, restraining undue expansion in money supply and curbing anti-social activities.

### **Cardamom Procurement**

1687. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre has decided to take over cardamom procurement;

(b) whether Karnataka Government has supported the proposed monopoly procurement and pooling of cardamom by the Centre;

(c) if so, at what stage the matter stands now; and

(d) the agency through which the procurement and export of cardamom be canalised?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.